



State Representative Len Greene

Dear Friend,

With an economic downturn upon us and budget deficits looming, my Republican colleagues and I offered an alternative budget that would have prevented deficits, provided our citizens some relief from sky-high gasoline prices and eliminated a nuisance tax that hits small businesses the hardest.

If the majority Democrats had agreed to adopt our proposals, I am confident the state budget would have been balanced during the 2008-2009 fiscal year and beyond and potential tax increases avoided.

We will continue working to preserve existing jobs and create new ones, to provide middle class tax relief, to encourage young people to stay in our state and pursue careers, and to restore confidence in our seniors that they can retire here without worrying about making ends meet on fixed incomes.

Earlier this year, I was pleased to report that Governor Rell signed into law a bill I cosponsored that gave Ansonia and Seymour housing authority tenants a reprieve from steep rent increases.

Several state grants also were approved for the 105th District, including:

- \$50,000 to the Town of Ansonia to help pay for roadway and pedestrian lighting improvements on Upper Main Street.
- \$105,000 to the Town of Beacon Falls for improvements to the Pent Road recreation complex and Matthies Park.
- \$25,000 to the Town of Beacon Falls for renovations to Town Hall.

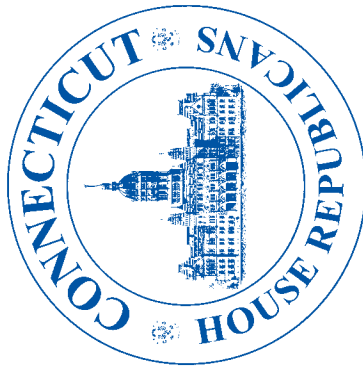
As always, if I can be of assistance on any problem involving state government, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Representative Greene and other Valley legislators gather in front of signs comparing legislative Republicans' "Do Something" alternative budget to legislative Democrats' "Do Nothing" budget.

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State Representative
LEN GREENE
Proudly Serving the 105th District
Ansonia ★ Beacon Falls ★ Seymour



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2008 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



State Representative
LEN GREENE
Proudly Serving the 105th District
Ansonia ★ Beacon Falls ★ Seymour

Fighting For Your Interests...

During the 2008 legislative session, my Republican colleagues and I sought to restrain spending and hold down taxes to encourage families, young people and seniors to stay in our state. My most important objectives this year were to hasten economic recovery, save jobs, and protect our citizens from violent criminals.

BUDGET: Streamlining Government; Helping Middle Class Taxpayers

- ★ Faced with a weakening economy and dwindling revenues, my colleagues and I proposed a voluntary early retirement program for state employees to reduce state spending by \$163 million and avoid deficits.
- ★ We supported gasoline tax cuts to help people who have to drive to work and cannot afford to pay over \$4 a gallon to fill their tanks.
- ★ We called for the repeal of a nuisance tax on small businesses. They are the backbone of our state's economy and create most of the jobs.
- ★ We proposed tax credits to make energy and health care more affordable.

EDUCATION: Learn Here, Live Here

- ★ We voted for a \$181 million increase in state education aid for local schools in 2008, which will continue with slight increases into 2009.
- ★ I voted for a measure to allow high school students to earn up to four credits toward graduation by passing a foreign language course provided by a non-profit organization.
- ★ We proposed an innovative way for college graduates to save for their first home and raise their families in Connecticut by banking their state income tax payments for up to 10 years.

SECURITY: Safety for Families, Children

- ★ We pushed for stronger penalties for repeat violent offenders. I voted for a new law that doubles and triples sentences for persistent dangerous felons.
- ★ Unfortunately, it falls short of the 'Three Strikes' legislation I preferred. Our proposal would have imposed life in prison for persons convicted of three violent offenses such as murder, rape, and home invasion.

SENIORS: Home Care for the Elderly

- ★ I voted for the 'money follows the person' bill to allow 5,000 elderly persons to receive long-term care at home rather than in nursing homes - a more desirable and cost-effective alternative that many have sought for years.
- ★ We continued our fight to exempt pensions from the state income tax to encourage seniors to retire in Connecticut.

VETERANS: Honoring their Service

- ★ I fought for a law that ensures civilian spouses who leave their jobs to accompany their military husbands or wives to out-of-state bases are eligible for unemployment compensation.
- ★ I voted for legislation to eliminate the \$10 fee for the Gold Star Families license plate.



Leadership... for a Change